

Final Meeting Minutes
Command Council Meeting
Seacliff State Beach
August 24, 2005

1. Attendees

Steve Hampton	Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game (CDFG) - Primary Representative
Charlene Andrade	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)- Primary Representative
Jennifer Boyce	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) – Primary Representative
Joanne Kerbavaz	California Department of Parks and Recreation (Parks) – Alternate Representative
Sarah Mongano	California State Lands Commission (CSLC) – Primary Representative

By phone

Kathy Verrue-Slater	CDFG – Legal
Lisa Wolfe	CDFG – Legal
Chuck McKinley	DOI – Legal
Katherine Pease	NOAA – Legal
Esther Burkett	CDFG – Alternate Representative

Guests for Project Updates

Karen Reyna	Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary (GFNMS), Project Manager for Seabird Colony Protection Project (except monitoring component)
Portia Halbert	State Parks, Project Manager for Corvid Management Project
Hannah Nevins	Oikonos, Project Manager for Sooty Shearwater Restoration Project
Michele Hester	Oikonos

2. Project Updates.

(1) *Corvid Management Project*: Portia Halbert provided an update on the project implementation at Big Basin, Portola, and Butano State Parks. Outreach, education, and roving “crumb patrols” are proceeding. The new garbage shed has arrived and will be assembled shortly. Many new garbage cans have been installed, but the new dumpsters do not fit correctly on the packer (the garbage truck), and thus require some modification. State Parks is working on that issue. Targeted raven removal has continued at a slower pace; a total of 21 ravens have been removed to date. Coordination with Memorial County Park will begin shortly, in hopes of implementing the project there in time for next summer. Joanne will investigate how to fund personnel working for the county.

David Suddjian is continuing with the monitoring; Portia will be reviewing draft reports from the 2005 season with him in the next few weeks. The Trustees discussed changes in the survey dates, concluding that the survey plan implemented in 2003 was optimal for both murrelets and corvids, except that the Council would like to add some earlier dates for corvid surveys in order to overlap murrelet egg-laying dates. Portia will arrange for this in 2006.

Portia presented a budget outlining expenses occurred during this year’s implementation, illustrating areas where certain items were more or less expensive than anticipated. The garbage cans were more expensive, but significant costs in 2005 were avoided due to the postponed implementation at Memorial Park and State Park’s ability to avoid overhead charges. The net result is that the project has \$93,000 remaining. They will prepare an annual report and budget for next year in time for the Council to review this fall.

- (2) *Girl Scout Creek Acquisition & Enhancement Project*: Attorneys from the various agencies have spent considerable time working out how to transfer the property to State Parks. They have drafted a resolution for the Trustee Council, as well as an MOU between State Parks, USFWS, and CDFG, which will guide the management of the property. A management plan will be created as part of the project. Both the resolution and the MOU need some minor changes. The attorneys will do this and forward to the Council in the next few days.
- (3) *Sooty Shearwater Restoration Project*: Hannah Nevins and Michele Hester of Oikonos provided a detailed presentation of the project. Extensive planning and coordination with the New Zealand Dept of Conservation and the Maori tribe continue. Recent study results suggest the weka (an introduced rail) is depredating shearwater nests. Oikonos is still investigating how the rat eradication will address the weka issue. The plan is to conduct the eradication in July 2006.
- (4) *Seabird Colony Protection Project*: Since the last Council meeting, the Trustee Council approved the proposed resolution funding the first year of the project as proposed by the GFNMS. Jen Boyce suggests the Council sign a resolution adopting the entire plan. Copies of the plan were distributed for councilmember review (comments should go directly to Karen Reyna). Once reviewed, Jen will prepare a resolution to approve the long-term plan.

Karen Reyna of the GFNMS presented the conceptual plan for implementing the project in its first year, as well as reviewed the disturbance problems at the colonies. As part of the project, she is hosting a seabird colony protection workshop with seabird biologists on November 3 in Santa Cruz (the day following the California seabird researchers coordination meeting at the same location). She would like law enforcement representatives to attend as well. Council members from law enforcement agencies are encouraged to suggest points of contact for her. Karen is also researching the regulations that may apply to this issue, has looked at a similar project in the Florida Keys that employs buoys to protect seagrass beds, and will visit Oregon to review the project up there. A budget for the next year of implementation will be prepared for the next meeting.

Monitoring by the Common Murre Restoration Project/USFWS is on-going. They have documented several disturbance events from both boats and helicopters that resulted in flushing birds off nests. A budget for 2006 monitoring will be needed shortly. Jen will investigate partnering opportunities with the Apex Houston Trustee Council.

- (5) *Common Murre Nesting Ledge Project on the Farallons*: The funds have been disbursed and implementation of this project is scheduled to begin this fall.
- (6) *Brown Pelican Roost Sites*: Per prior agreement, the Council is holding off on this project for this year.
- (7) *Brown Pelican Entanglement Education*: Per prior agreement, the Council is holding off on this project for this year.
- (8) *Mirada Surf Enhancements*: Sarah Mongano has prepared a draft resolution to fund this project. The Council reviewed and suggested some revisions. Sarah will prepare a revised resolution. NOAA will prepare draft language for an informational sign as part of the project.
- (9) *Seal Cove Stairs*: Sarah Mongano has prepared a draft resolution to fund this project. The Council reviewed and suggested some revisions. Sarah will prepare a revised resolution. The stairs are being built now, with the anticipation that the Council will reimburse the county before July 1, 2006.
- (10) *Half Moon Bay Stairs*: Per prior agreement, the Council is holding off on this project for this year.

- 3. Annual Newsletter. Jen Boyce provided a draft of the annual newsletter. Council members should review and give comments to Jen by Sept 5. Jen will then revise and send out another draft for final review shortly thereafter. The newsletter will be made available on the web (as a pdf file) and may be handed out at meetings and conferences, as well as distributed by each agency as they see fit.

4. Administrative Costs and Allocations. Since not all 2004-05 cost totals, cost packages, and 2005-06 budgets were in final form at this meeting, the Council agreed to review this issue on a conference call, scheduled for Sept 8 at 10am. Steve will set up the call. Council members should email 2004-05 cost totals and 2005-06 budget requests to all Council members prior to the call.
5. Next Meeting. No date has been set.
6. To do's:
 - a. Investigate funding of San Mateo Co. personnel for corvid mgmt. Kerbavez
 - b. Report, budget, and workplan for 2006 corvid mgmt. project. Kerbavez
 - c. Complete Girl Scout Creek resolution and MOU legal staff
 - d. Review long-term plan for seabird colony protection and comment to Karen Reyna. All
 - e. Prepare resolution to approve long-term seabird colony protection plan. Boyce
 - f. Refer law enforcement contacts to Karen Reyna. All (as warranted)
 - g. Investigate cost-sharing of seabird monitoring with Apex council. Boyce
 - h. Report, budget, and workplan for 2006 seabird colony protection and monitoring. Boyce
 - i. Budget and workplan for murre nesting ledge project for 2006 (if needed). Andrade
 - j. Revise resolution and workplan to fund Seal Cove Stairs project. Mongano
 - k. Revise resolution and workplan to fund Mirada Surf project. Mongano
 - l. Draft language for Mirada Surf informational sign. Boyce
 - m. Comment on draft newsletter to Jen by Sept 5. All
 - n. Prepare draft final newsletter for Council review after Sept 5. Boyce
 - o. Prepare cost reports (July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005) for review by cost committee. All
 - p. Prepare administrative budget requests for 2005-06 fiscal year for Sept 8 conf call. All
 - q. Set up conference call for Sept 8 at 10am. Hampton
 - r. Arrange time and place of next meeting. Hampton